HE DEFENCE OF LITERATURE AND THE ARTS SOCIETY)

PLEASE REPLY TO:-

23 Budgen Drive Redhill Surrey RHI 2QB 15th December 2000

To: Carolyn Morisson Head of International Broadcasting Department for Culture 2 Cockspur Street, London SWIY 5DH

Dear Madam

REQUEST BY ITC FOR PROSCRIPTION OF ADULT X SATELLITE CHANNEL

In the name of freedom of expression and logic, we demand that the same standard is applied to television for adults as is applied to video recordings and magazines. New guidelines have been approved by the British Board of Film Classification, HM Customs, and the Police for adult material. They are set out in the R18 Guidelines published by the BBFC. They should also apply to adult television and the unreasonable request of the ITC should therefore be rejected.

It should be noted that adult satellite television can only be received by using a smartcard, which can be kept out of the reach of minors. Such broadcasts are therefore analogous to R18 video recordings, which can only be supplied by sex-shops. In any event, why should the United Kingdom be the only country in Europe where satellite television stations are proscribed? That is unacceptable, authoritarian English nannyism based on the false premise that British Citizens must be treated like children by mandarins and ministers.

Yours,

Clir E Goodman Chair of CAC